

Quincy Police Department
Supplemental Report

P.S.
 CASE FILE NUMBER
0172 89-33834

CASE DESCRIPTION PATROL INVESTIGATION		OFFENSE CODE	BEAT NO. 6 & 5	SUB-BEAT	WHEEL HOURS	HANDGUNS TENTHS
CODE	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	RACE	SEX	D.O.B.

CODE: W—Witness S—Suspect A—Arrested F—Father M—Mother G—Guardian R—Runaway WP—Wanted Person
 MP—Missing Person C—Complainant AC—Accident O—Other

Following is a taped interview with Clarence Bryon Wheeler, who prefers to be called Bryon, and will be referred to as Bryon in this interview. Bryon is going to state what exactly happened when he was burnt by chemicals in the Mississippi River off the Moorman bean dock.

This is Bryon Wheeler, and on Sunday morning at approximately 9:30, we launched our boat in at the city park and went down river to just above South Side Boat Club. From there, we proceeded to dive for mussel shells, working up river back towards the car bridges, Memorial Bridge. We picked up shells in approximately thirty-eight to forty feet of water and came in contact with several fifty-five gallon drums containing an unknown substance. We worked up river, just south of where the sea wall begins to point out, and pretty close to that area at the base of the rocks, I came in contact with fifty-five gallon drums and received burns to my arms and neck. That was at approximately one o'clock. Barrels were scattered from just north of the South Side Boat Club up to the area where we stopped. I have spoken with other divers, and they were diving just above us. They also said they have come in contact with the barrels.

Bryon, can you tell me were any of the divers you were with, did they get any burns, or did any of the other people working with you on making sure the compressors were running and everything, did they witness anything unusual when you came in contact with the barrels, and if they did see anything unusual, would you tell us what they said it looked like until we can talk with them?

The fellow diving with me was a Lewis Harrison of Louisiana, Missouri, and he also

REPORTING OFFICER ID #	OFFICER-IN-CHARGE	TIME & DATE TYPED	ENTERED LEADS
Officer Ed Moon #166 <i>Ed Moon</i> cm/10		1745 08-16-89	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> WAN <input type="checkbox"/> MISSING PERSON <input type="checkbox"/> STC
LEADS TO	REPORT REVIEW	INDEXED	ENTERED UCR
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EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



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 P.B.
 CASE FILE NUMBER
 89-33834

OFFENSE DESCRIPTION PATROL INVESTIGATION		OFFENSE CODE	BEAT NO. 6 & 5	SUB-BEAT	WHOLE HOURS	HOURS TENTHS	
CODE	NAME	ADDRESS		PHONE	RACE	SEX	D.O.B.

CODE: W—Witness S—Suspect A—Arrested F—Father M—Mother G—Guardian R—Runaway WP—Wanted Person
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Received burns to his left arm, his lower arm, and our boat man surrounding the compressor and keeping boats away from us, and said that everytime we'd hit a barrel, he said that it looked like a oil slick or a gas slick, would come to the top of the water and float off.

Do you have any idea how many barrels are down there, and what their distance is from the bank?

It's hard to say really how many barrels there is there. I came in contact with seven on Sunday, and Lewis also said that he came in contact with several barrels, but their approximately twenty to twenty-five yards from the bank.

And the barrel that you feel that you received the burns from, approximately where was it in relationship to the sea wall there?

It was just south of the point on the sea wall, and there's a big yellow tie off for barges, and it was pretty close to that.

TIME AND DATE DICTATED: 1720 HOURS 08-16-89

REPORTING OFFICER ID # Officer Ed Moon #166	<i>[Signature]</i> cm/10	OFFICER-IN-CHARGE	TIME & DATE TYPED 1755 08-16-89	ENTERED LEADS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> WANT <input type="checkbox"/> MISSING PERSON <input type="checkbox"/> SYD.
REPORTED TO	REPORT REVIEW	INDEXED	ENTERED UCR	LEADS RECD. NO.
STATUS				

000174

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE CITY OF QUINCY

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

— 507 VERMONT — QUINCY, ILLINOIS 62301 — (217) 228-4480 —



JOHN M. WILSON
Chief of Police

August 16, 1989

Dr. Per Brolinson
P.O. Box 49
Frankford, MO 63441

Dear Dr. Brolinson:

Pursuant to an on-going investigation involving Bryon Wheeler, he has given us permission to request his medical treatment records involving chemical burns that he received on Sunday, August 13, 1989. A response as soon as possible would be greatly appreciated.

I, Bryon Wheeler, do hereby authorize the release of my medical treatment records concerning the above listed incident, for which I was treated on Monday, August 14, 1989.

Bryon Wheeler

Bryon Wheeler

Ed Moon

Witness, Officer Ed Moon #166

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

John M. Wilson
Chief of Police

Ed Moon
by Officer Ed Moon #166

"To Serve with Pride and Dignity"

QUINCY POLICE DEPARTMENT

☐

OTHER PROPERTY

And exact location where found 1. TWO ROLLS OF FILM SHOWING BURNS ON THREE VICTIMS OF
DIVING IN THE RIVER NEAR CAUSTIC MATERIALS.

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I will be speaking with Brad W. Hudson (3215 Lindell DOB 09-22-56, phone number 222-9327). Hudson has also been diving in the Mississippi River, between the Memorial Bridge and the South Side Boat Club, and has come into contact with several fifty-five gallon drums on the river bottom.

Next, I will be speaking with Sam H. Mason (Box 1414, Hannibal, MO, no phone). He is a boatman who tends the divers who are in the water.

Next, I will be speaking with John S. Grue of (505 West Jefferson in Camp Point, IL, phone number 593-7316, DOB 10-10-59).

I dived in the river. My name is John Grue. I've come in contact with about five barrels, in between the North Side Boat Club and the South Side Boat Club, about fifty feet out from the bank, and I've got a couple of blisters on my toes. I've been diving there for about a week, and that is about all I have found.

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89-33834

OFFENSE DESCRIPTION PATROL INVESTIGATION		OFFENSE CODE	BEAT NO. 6 & 5	AT	WHOLE HOURS	MANHOURS TENTHS
CODE	NAME	ADDRESS		NE	RACE	SEX

CODE: W—Witness S—Suspect A—Arrested F—Father M—Mother G—Guardian
MP—Missing Person C—Complainant AC—Accident O—Other

unaway WP—Wanted Person

Next, I will be speaking with Todd A. Grigsby, (R. R. 1, Box Goldsberry, MO 63539 DOB 01-18-68, phone number 816-486-3212).

I work as a boatman for Jim Grue, and I've never come in contact with any barrels or anything, and all I know is what they have said, that they felt bars down there. You already have their statements.

Have you seen any slicks or anything come up from any contact with the barrels or noticed any slicks on the water while you were out there?

No.

Next, I will be speaking with Jim G. Grue (8 Riverside Terrace Quincy, IL, phone number 224-2879, DOB 12-29-65).

We hit two barrels up by the South Side Boat Club on this side towards the bridge, and it pretty much shied away from those. We hit two of them further down the wall, and we've hit one or two of them further up, towards the North Side Boat Club. At the depth we're diving there, you can't see, so you don't know if you've hit one and run back into it, because there is a slight current out there, and you can't tell your sense of direction very well, but I know for a fact there is five in there that I have felt. I had a real bad rash on my right foot and up the ankle on my left foot.

TIME AND DATE DICTATED: 1847 HOURS 08-16-89

REPORTING OFFICER ID # Officer Ed Moon #166	OFFICER-IN-CHARGE <i>[Signature]</i>	TIME & DATE TYPED 2000 08-16-89	ENTERED LEADS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> WANTED <input type="checkbox"/> MISSING PERSON <input type="checkbox"/> STOLEN
REFERRED TO	REPORT REVIEW	INDEXED	ENTERED UCR
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PRIMARY

I have talked with eight people who are either divers or boatmen working in the river between the Memorial Bridge and South Side Boat Club. Of the eight people I talked to, three had burns on them, and a fourth person, who I have not yet talked to, has burns all over his left arm.

С. Я. Яковлев

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OFFENSE DESCRIPTION		OFFENSE CODE	BEAT NO.	SUB-BEAT	WHOLE HOURS	MANHOURS TENTHS
PATROL INVESTIGATION			6 & 5			
CODE	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	RACE	SEX	D.O.B.
V	John S. GRUE	505 West Jefferson, Camp Point, IL 62320	593-7316	W	M	10-10-59
O	Sam H. MASON	Box 1414, Hannibal, MO	None	W	M	
O	Brad W. HUDSON	3215 Lindell Avenue	222-9327	W	M	09-22-56
O	Dappell L. NIFFEN	Louisiana, MO	314-754-6569	W	M	10-10-56
O	James R. VOLTIK	Box 298-B, New London, MO	None	W	M	

CODE: W—Witness S—Suspect A—Arrested F—Father M—Mother G—Guardian R—Runaway WP—Wanted Person
 MP—Missing Person C—Complainant AC—Accident O—Other

The major concentration of barrels causing the problem appear to be just off the north end of the south bean dock at Moorman's loading dock, and just off the North Side Boat Club. All of the divers I spoke to stated that most of the barrels are within about twenty to thirty yards from the bank. The barrels are in thirty-seven to thirty-eight feet of water.

TIME AND DATE DICTATED: 1931 HOURS 08-16-89

REPORTING OFFICER ID #	OFFICER-IN-CHARGE	TIME & DATE TYPED	ENTERED LEADS
Officer Ed Moon #166	cm/10	2027 08-16-89	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> WAY
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STATUS			

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OFFENSE DESCRIPTION PATROL INVESTIGATION		OFFENSE CODE	BEAT NO. 6 & 5	SUB-BEAT	WHEEL HOURS	MANHOURS TENTHS
CODE	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	RACE	SEX	D.O.B.

CODE: W—Witness S—Suspect A—Arrested F—Father M—Mother G—Guardian R—Runaway WP—Wanted Person
MP—Missing Person C—Complainant AC—Accident O—Other

I was requested by Capt. Mason to start an investigation into the alleged burns that Bryon Wheeler had received while diving for mussel shells in the Mississippi River between the Memorial Bridge and the South Side Boat Club.

I went to Quincy Technical School at 4th & Spring and made contact with Bryon Wheeler. Bryon said on Sunday, August 13, 1989, he and another diver (Lewis Harrison) were diving off the Moorman bean dock for mussel shells. Bryon said they had been in the water since approximately 9:30 that morning, and about 1:00 PM, he came in contact with three fifty-five gallon drums, which were on the bottom of the river, just off the north end of the south bean dock. Bryon said the drums were almost directly off a large barge tie up at the north end of that dock. The barrels are in thirty-seven to thirty-eight feet of water at the bottom of an incline, which he described as rippap. Bryon stated the sea wall from the bean dock goes down so far, and then this rippap angles out into the river channel itself. Bryon stated the barrels were right at the bottom of the rippap and were hardly sunken in the mud. Bryon stated he didn't notice a burning sensation until he came up in the boat to take a break, at which time his neck and arms started burning.

Bryon said the places that seemed burned on him were places that were not well protected by his ^{wet} suit. Bryon said the biggest burn was on the left side of his neck, which went around towards the back of the neck, and ~~then~~ his right arm. Bryon has a small burn on his ^{Left} ~~right~~ arm, which has almost healed.

Bryon said all of the mussels were dead within eight to ten feet around the three or four barrels he had come into contact with. Bryon said they had talked to his boatman,

REPORTING OFFICER ID # Officer Ed Moon #166	cm/10	OFFICER-IN-CHARGE	TIME & DATE TYPED 2045 08-16-89	ENTERED LEADS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> WAN <input type="checkbox"/> MISSING PERSON <input type="checkbox"/> BYC
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OFFENSE DESCRIPTION PATROL INVESTIGATION		OFFENSE CODE	BEAT NO. 6 & 5	SUB-BEAT	WHOLE HOURS	MANHOURS TENTHS	
CODE	NAME	ADDRESS		PHONE	RACE	SEX	D.O.B.

CODE: W—Witness S—Suspect A—Arrested F—Father M—Mother G—Guardian R—Runaway WP—Wanted Person
 MP—Missing Person C—Complainant AC—Accident O—Other

who said everytime he bumped into one of the bannels, a slick came to the top of the water and floated away.

Bryon and I then went down to Front & Hampshire in an attempt to have him show me where the bannels were, but we could not see the location, due to the bend in the river. We then went down to Canton Marine Towing and asked if they would be able to take us up there for a short time to get a better look at the layout of the river, so Bryon could be more certain about his location.

The captain we spoke to agreed to take us to this location, which he did.

As we were going up, Bryon was pointing out different locations for the bannels. The first bannels he said they came in contact with were along the south end of the sea wall at the Moorman bean dock, and that as you go north from there, there are several other bannels. Bryon said the bannels he came in contact with that caused the burns were the ones at the north end of the south bean dock. Bryon said there were also several other bannels north of there. Bryon said he is supe that he has bumped into at least seven or eight different bannels.

After returning to shore, Conservation Officer Glen Sanders was there waiting for us off the Canton Marine Dock. I spoke with Sanders, and he stated he had received a phone call that implicated Bob Frese in the dumping of the bannels. Sanders said he would forward a copy of a report that he will write in reference to the phone call.

Bryon and I then came to the station, where I took photographs of his burn areas, and also had a medical release prepared, which he signed and I witnessed.

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OFFENSE DESCRIPTION PATROL INVESTIGATION			OFFENSE CODE	BEAT NO. 6 & 5	SUB-BEAT	WHOLE HOURS	MANHOURS TENTHS	
NO	CODE	NAME	ADDRESS		PHONE	RACE	SEX	DOB

CODE: W—Witness S—Suspect A—Arrested F—Father M—Mother G—Guardian R—Runaway WP—Wanted Person
MP—Missing Person C—Complainant AC—Accident O—Other

Bryon stated he went to the Frankford, MO Clinic. He was examined there by Dr. Per Brolinson. Bryon stated he was treated on Monday, August 14, 1989. He stated Dr. Brolinson told him they would probably never know what sort of chemicals he had come in contact with.

Bryon then made a taped statement as to what he had done on Sunday, as far as the diving, his location, etc.

A short while later, three other divers and two boatmen came in. The three divers and two boatmen were interviewed and recorded as to what their statements were concerning the barrels in the river. They stated they had been diving in the same area as Bryon had, and that they probably came across the same barrels. Two of the divers had some type of burn or rash on them. They stated they not only came in contact with the barrels off the yellow barge tie up, but they also came in contact with some by the North Side Boat Club, which also caused problems. They stated they came in contact with at least seven different barrels.

I spoke with Jim G. Grue, who stated last week he had what he thought was a rash on the top of his ankles and on the side of his right foot. He stated the barrels he came in contact with when he got the rash were just off the North Side Boat Club, about fifty feet from the bank in about thirty to forty feet of water. Grue stated he didn't think that much of it at the time, and he thought it may have been caused by a new pair of tennis shoes he had, but since he had seen Bryon's burns, his rash appeared to be just about like his.

REPORTING OFFICER ID # Officer Ed Moon #166	cm/10	OFFICER-IN-CHARGE	TIME & DATE TYPED 2107 08-16-89	ENTERED LEADS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> WA <input type="checkbox"/> MISSING PERSON <input type="checkbox"/> S
REFERRED TO	REPORT REVIEW	INDEXED	ENTERED UCR	LEADS MESS. NO.

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OFFENSE DESCRIPTION PATROL INVESTIGATION			OFFENSE CODE	BEAT NO. 6 & 5	SUB-BEAT	WHOLE HOURS	MANHOURS TENTHS
NO	CODE	NAME	ADDRESS		PHONE	RACE	SEX DOB

CODE: W—Witness S—Suspect A—Arrested F—Father M—Mother G—Guardian R—Runaway WP—Wanted Person
 MP—Missing Person C—Complainant AC—Accident O—Other


I then spoke with John S. Grue, who stated he had what he thought to be some abrasions caused by some sand in his shoes, but upon closer examination, they appeared to be burns, as they were blistering. He stated the barrel he came in contact with was off the North Side Boat Club about fifty feet from the bank.

They stated the barrels close to the North Side Boat Club are about halfway stilted in, but that the ones farther to the south along the Moorman bean dock are sitting on top of the mud for the most part.

The other diver I talked to, Brad Hudson, stated he had not been burned, but he had come in contact with several barrels on the river bottom. I talked to the boatmen, who were running the compressors for these divers, and they stated they noticed nothing unusual as far as slicks or anything else coming up from the river bottom.

While on the river, I also talked to Darrell Niffen and James Voltik, who are other divers. They stated they have not come in contact with any barrels, but that they had not dived in the same area as the other divers. Darrell Niffen is Bryon Wheeler's uncle. Niffen stated he dived off the Moorman bean dock, but only from about halfway down to the south bean dock, to just north of where Bryon got burned. Niffen stated he did not come across any barrels at all.

TIME AND DATE DICTATED: 1949 HOURS 08-16-89

REPORTING OFFICER ID # Officer Ed Moon #166	cm/10	OFFICER-IN-CHARGE 	TIME & DATE TYPED. 2115 08-16-89	ENTERED LEADS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> WAT <input type="checkbox"/> MISSING PERSON <input type="checkbox"/> ST
REFERRED TO	REPORT REVIEW	INDEXED	ENTERED UCR	LEADS MESS. NO.

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Heavy Bordered Areas Are For Records

RECORDS - WHITE

LEGAL - YELLOW

WORKING COPY - PINK